

12. (Amended) A radio communication system as set forth in claim 8, wherein said control unit accepts an instruction from a user to inhibit a handover operation regardless of the result of comparison of said measured field intensity level and said circuit quality value with said thresholds.

13. (Amended) A radio communication system as set forth in claim 8, wherein said control unit accepts an instruction from a user to execute a handover operation regardless of the result of comparison of said measured field intensity level and said circuit quality value with said thresholds.—.

REMARKS

Claims 8-24 remain pending in this application. The allowance of claims 14-18 and the indication that claims 11 and 22 are directed to allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. Further reconsideration of this application, in particular claims 8-10, 12, 13, 19-21, 23 and 24 is requested.

Claims 9-13 have been amended to eliminate a clerical error, and now properly depend from claim 8. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph rejection is requested.

The rejection of claims 8, 9, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Balachandran, U.S. Patent No. 5,594,943, is respectfully traversed. The Office action asserts that the adjustment of the threshold in Balachandran is in response to failed attempts at a handoff, citing to col. 24, ll. 5-10 of that prior art patent. This passage of Balachandran refers to the embodiment of Fig. 17, showing a state diagram (as opposed to a process flow diagram) in which secondary thresholds are adjusted.

As shown in Fig. 17, the process goes from a Normal Mode (1701) to either an Undirected Channel Hop Mode (1703) or to an Attempt Handoff Mode (1705). The Attempt Handoff Mode goes to either the Normal Mode 1701, an Initial Acquisition Mode (1707) or to an Adjust Threshold and Acquire Mode (1709). In each of these modes, only upon acquiring a channel are the parameters of the channel compared with the threshold values to determine whether the thresholds are being violated by the